

MACLEAN'S 20¢

Canada's National Magazine

December 17 1966

THE LOST CHILDREN

The real tragedy of Warrendale

Nicholas Monsarrat's farewell:
CANADA CAN'T MISS

Vital facts the doctors missed
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THE BATTLE FOR THE CHILDREN

Nobody won—but the children lost

Edith is a 15-year-old Toronto girl who sometimes sneaks up her room with a dating book. Sometimes she decides to get a boyfriend so deep that faces and voices from the real world are smothered. Sometimes she screens real suitors with the twisted images from her head. Three years ago her younger sister died in a drowning that the Metropolitan Toronto Children's Aid Society discovered only six hours after it while his mother was searching for life in the Ontario street bums. Edith was shocked at a funeral and still can't stand to watch the sea, though with sympathy. "How did it all happen? How does it happen to the Children's Aid Society, without warning for anyone. She said a coworker, 'I need to be shut up when I can get treatment. I think there is something wrong in my head'."

Edah needs treatment: Edah was treatment-free Edah could go treatment. There are at least half a million children like her in Canada. There are at least 500,000 like her in Ontario who desperately need professional help. Last summer, more than 700 were getting it. There were 21 clinics for about 170 emotionally disturbed children in the province and 24 clinics for about 700 neurologically impaired (in terms that encompasses someone's disorders involving brain defects). There were 100 clinics and accommodation facilities for only about 300 emotionally disturbed children in all of Ontario.

It was upon the honorable background that the beats of Wyandotte began to throb: hot summer and rigid rule in 1953. Wyandotte: the discipline, voluntary obedience of behavior of politicians, professional men and social workers, disrupting the existing training centers with less morality than single be expected of the children in their care, pointing the children to be explained as natural instincts, breaking and rebuilding among themselves in more leader and shifter than the cries of children in the dark. Nobody was the basis of Wyandotte, but the three are easy to identify. They are the 37 children who were there and the 30 months who left. They were not

The Wisconsin Center for Emotionally Disturbed Children compares its residence and a school on a short street and drive in Kenosha, a suburb of Toronto. The students resemble — and are assigned to resemble — ordinary boys for a warm, familiar atmosphere in the heart of the Wisconsin method. In mid-autumn in the solitary setting begins a careful chronology of events, shapes and counter-shapes that reached its climax on the night of September 8 when 20 disturbed children ran away from what one of / continued overleaf

At stake: control of the Warrendale Centre For Emotionally Disturbed Children. The bitter contestants: Warrendale's unorthodox director vs. the Ontario government. Here's how they fought their rancorous battle—at an incalculable cost to those it was supposed to save —/BY JON RUDDY

Was it enough just to give them love? Yes, declared the radical. No, replied the orthodox

overseen / their lives dominated by a "paternal instinct"

The solution was none of these things. It is a childlike quest for the health of Warrickville was fought on other fields. It was a battle, usually personal, with someone John L. Brown, a radical pediatrician, and water and in NDP circles who was Root after 13 years in Warrickville's executive director, and the Conservative Ontario government in Queen's Park with its unrelenting urge of orthodox professionals in the child care field.

Under Brown, Warrickville was a private agency depending on Department of Welfare subsidies to pay the bulk of its expenses of \$26.50 per child-day. Brown, fiercely independent, and well-regarded writer of Queen's Park, wanted government subsidies without government interference. The Welfare Department, its Conservative attitude indirectly reflected in Warrickville's newly eminent board of directors, could not count on approval of his increasing independence from his methods or his policies. Brown was famous for saying in which Welfare professionals and board members board to trial. Says Robert McNair, the new president of the Warrickville board, "He was always hostile, a combatant, and a demanding, aggressive, egotistical, when we put him in any place where he could make some sense." Cited by the board, Brown would argue in a hall — and the board would talk him out of it. "It might be one that we accepted too much too long," says McNair.

Brown's methods were undeniably effective: two dozen in Warrickville staff workers cared 35 to 40 persons rehabilitated (although government critics claim that the studies were not

"It's a program to undermine confidence in me"—John Brown

conducted with sufficient controls and results to be accepted by any scientific authority). What had become known as the Warrickville Method (and was described in the February 29, 1966, issue of *McGraw's*) involved a large staff — mostly in many staff members in pediatric — and an emphasis on domestic life and affection instead of on charts and games. (The Warrickville staff was a little too domestic, according to some observers. Brown has been played by various clothing staff workers and teenage girl patients.)

While Brown argued at departmental barometers and argued in red tape, the government group expressed a lack of confidence in his current philosophy. His great love, family was seen as a crude simplification by government professionals concerned with severe diagnosis and the careful selection of treatment programs. Dr. J. Donald Atcheson, representative of the government-operated Childcare Hospital for emotionally disturbed children, said the case who succeeded Brown at Warrickville, was not of these.

To say that if a child is hungry it doesn't matter what he is in the hospital, says Dr. Atcheson. "To say that if a child is disturbed it doesn't matter what he is equally stupid. We need to know what the child needs. We need to diagnose his disturbance."

Government experts watched teenagers walking at baby bottles and being comforted by Brown's staff — part of Warrickville's method was "interpersonal method" — and worried, not necessarily because they objected to the treatment, but because it was engaged without activity. They worried even further at photographs seen in Department of Health files showing young patients giving baby bottles to the staff. Brown's Warrickville had about it as unpleasant turn of the berries.

Still another name was Brown Campa Ltd., a day camp group of summer facilities for emotionally disturbed children which



Brown had handled every the dead bodies of the board. "We considered that a direct conflict of interests and we finally told Brown to discontinue this activity," says McNair. But Brown Campa Ltd. is now in all state government circles, having many of the children displaced from Warrickville, and employing some of its staff.

Probably Brown lasted as long as he did at Warrickville because he was what the government group so properly was not. He was an activist. The Department of Welfare wanted his family. Indeed, from the Welfare experts' mind groups all the children of Ontario, domestic, municipal, and others. As it was, Brown was — personal, political and professional — went left to summer for years. Perhaps that is why the ideological alienation that follows of the health of Warrickville seems to be as good a demonstration of emotional behavior in its last history of any disturbed child, and a demonstration of social reform reality and a demonstration that none the father is trying to do the best by his children, sometimes does the worst.

AUGUST 11 In a press conference Brown charged that the Warrickville board had failed last, effective September 1, because he had been nominated NDP candidate for a new provincial riding in Toronto. Had he been running as a Conservative, he would be probably would have got a free receipt. He warned the Department of Welfare of running a "state campaign" against him personally and of being that it "had something" as has. He described Welfare Minister Louis Croteau as "a nobody" and showed Deputy Minister James Ross to the story book character Fanny-Lou who delivered a warning speech.

"We need to diagnose the child's disturbance"—Dr. J. Donald Atcheson

"You can look at Jim Brown's mouth and see Warrickville's old Southern feelings out," Brown said.

AUGUST 24 Robin Henry Warrickville's assistant director said the man who had been named as Brown's successor, resigned. Henry said that he was not in a position to discuss a treatment program.

AUGUST 25 The union staff of Warrickville, 30 social workers and teachers, announced their resignation. Members said that the board was interfering in Warrickville policy. Welfare Minister Croteau said he suspected the whole thing was an NDP plot engineered by Brown. Brown said a board change led by President John Pollack seemed demanded at during the Warrickville treatment study.

AUGUST 27 Susan L. Brown, a senior official of the Child Welfare League of America called on by the Warrickville board to make the staff, despite, persuaded the staff to defer their resignations until September 15.

SEPTEMBER 1 Colin Ellis, minister to Robert Henry and Walter Dunn, former of residential systems, arrived. Later that the board's action in firing Brown and disrupting treatment in Warrickville, was the most disastrous action in the history of welfare.

SEPTEMBER 3 The Warrickville staff announced that it would resign on more September 8 despite insurance gains in including Susan L. Brown. Parents and welfare agencies with children in Warrickville were asked to return their letters September 10. Members of the staff reported that children were being taken out to live away. Toronto children's agencies proposed to staff the same as a temporary basis if the without board.

OCTOBER 10 In a sudden move, the Province of Ontario took over the operation of Warrickville. Health Minister Maurice Dwyer took the Warrickville. / continued on page 33



CONNOISSEUR'S CHRISTMAS TREE

PRODUCED BY MARJORIE HOWARD | PHOTOS BY TIM BAUMANN

Avant-garde painter, sculptor, writer, symbol of irreverent iconoclasm: Harold Tarn is all of these and more. He's busy, too—creating a huge sculpture fountain for Expo '87, arranging two one-man shows of his work for Chicago and Los Angeles. But at this time every year, Tarn the anti-traditionalist takes time off for an orgy of orthodoxy, putting on a super-production strictly for his family and friends—trimming a traditional but not conventional Christmas tree. It takes four days, intense energy, interference from well-meaning friends, but he ends with a tree that dominates his entire household.

IT'S ONE OF THOSE daunting tasks become rituals to Tarn's friends. Some and last done this fall isn't that distant as a military left point that a decorative cap cascading along through the weeks falling — that's right taking — to the table.

It's not just Tarn the artist and his wife who have been with him. It's not a thing about him — a real thing that comes to a friend when he starts and ends his own Christmas tree and those people who know him well know it.

His own such year is this one when he decided that he had to do it. He's not a thing about him — a real thing that comes to a friend when he starts and ends his own Christmas tree and those people who know him well know it.

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"The 42, and I can remember the ornaments you can see on the Christmas tree of my childhood."



"These were all gifts from family, a picture I remember. My only problem is to find someone to take."



"Mishkin Derschman sent this from Japan. It's the best up to your head it brings your look."



"I like you a thing, say it's not. I bought 12 hours of these years ago and haven't used any since."

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RULES FOR AN ANTI-DECORATOR TREE

1. "Buy spruce. Scotch pine is not a Christmas tree, it is an inverted bush, just another notch in the belt of conformity that guarantees to separate all character out of the modern celebration of Christmas."
2. "Cut the tree top and bottom for density. Cut base at an angle, strip bark, bore holes at side and base no more exposed until it must flow through the tree. Always use a live preening spray on the tree."
3. "Small lights are put on first, from top to bottom, outer branches are spread with large bulbs as the eye moves into the center of the tree when they're on. Remember sequence of attachments so you won't be confused when removing them. Use as many bulbs as possible."
4. "Ornaments must be commercially made. Dishcloths, fondly and sweetly lumped together at school by progeny are as anything to a great tree."
5. "Nothing can replace elastic bands for tree hangers."
6. "New for '86 stove pipe wire for danglers. They are stiff but real-looking."
7. "Always start at top with ornaments, the computer is to start at the nearest, easiest branch. Good or special ornaments must be put on last."
8. "Wrap ornaments carefully, remove methodically. Set the bottom in the lid so the box will be together for re-packing."
9. "Date boxes by year of purchase. Record each progeny, and, if gift, name of donor, so that when you hand decorations over to your grown children there'll be a discernable history."
10. "Children must be allowed to decorate as soon as they can hold an ornament and must be present at all decoration ceremonies. Start them with the unadorned, deep red and under the tree. They like to crawl under and behind the tree."
11. "The back must be decorated, you don't send a lady out on Fair Day with only the front of her dress on. A great tree deserves the same respect."



Tarn and his friend Walter Yarwood made 15 feet of spruce out of the forest. Then Tarn gave to work in his living room, pouring it down to make a tree. With the aid of Tarn's daughter, Nadine and Stevie, the light, an unadorned — is a tree? The children occasionally open their gifts on Christmas Eve, listening to Dylan Thomas' "A Christmas Carol in White", and Tarn's day in to compare the finished tree with last year's effort and to give it a rating.



The brain drain, "prop art" and George Feyer



A brief report on a bizarre imagination: now Feyer's invented a new art form — and a birth-control alarm clock



One of the sadder effects of the brain drain has been the departure of George Feyer, the Washington-born cartoonist whose bizarre imagination has pervaded the pages of *Mad* since its inception in the past 15 years. A year ago he moved to Los Angeles, a city he has never learned to loathe, but which happens to be the animation capital of the world. Like most Caucasian brain-drainers, his feelings are mixed. His intellect has doubled, but he finds the city "superficial, heartless and insane." Luckily, Feyer's insatiable brand of creativity has taken rather good advantage. He's turned to something he calls "prop art," which involves combining real objects with Feyer drawings. The cartoonists here are an example. But prop art is not Feyer's only contribution to North American culture. He's also designed a device that looks like a cuckoo clock. Every morning at eight, a little shark pops out and delivers a birth-control pill. No kidding. The "clock" are being manufactured in Japan and should be on the market in time for Christmas.



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MACLEAN'S THE VIEWS

DECEMBER 17, 1984

VOLUME 70 NUMBER 24

SAY, JUST WHAT DID HAPPEN TO JUST MARY?

When readers who were growing up during World War II go shopping for children's books this Christmas they'll find a whole new literature of their dream—a society novel and pay obliquely toward them. There are no Christmas books on Christmas trees in this shop. But some parents, probably to their children's detriment, will still buy children's books. And the children's books that the War II era children who were born in 1945 are still reading today.

What happened to the War II era of the best-selling series of juvenile books of the late 1940s and early 1950s? One of the best-selling of the series was the CBC series of the late 1940s and early 1950s. The series was a 10-volume series of juvenile books of the late 1940s and early 1950s. The series was a 10-volume series of juvenile books of the late 1940s and early 1950s. The series was a 10-volume series of juvenile books of the late 1940s and early 1950s.

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THE LIFE AND DEATH OF A TEENY-BOPPER

In a lonely shack by a desert lake, she found her second home. And it's wild

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your holidays. So will
the delicious taste of
ice-cold Coca-Cola.



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